

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

12-10-06

From the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

PCT

To:

ZACCO DENMARK AS
Hans Bekkevolds Allé 7
DK-2900 Hellerup
DANEMARK

INVITATION TO RESTRICT
OR PAY ADDITIONAL FEES, AND,
WHEREAPPLICABLE, PROTEST FEE

(PCT Article 34(3)(a) and Rules 68.2 and 68.3(e))

RECEIVED
30 JUN 2006
Zacco Denmark AS

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) 28.06.2006

Applicant's or agent's file reference
P200301882 WO

REPLY OR
PAYMENT DUE

within one month from
the above date of mailing

International application No.
PCT/DK2005/000221

International filing date
(day/month/year) 31.03.2005

Applicant:
FORCE TECHNOLOGY et al.

FRIST DATO:	280706
FRIST NOTERET:	DCM
FRIST KONTROLLERET:	SPD

- This International Preliminary Examining Authority
 - considers that there are **2 inventions** claimed in the international application as indicated in the Annex.
 - therefore considers that **the international application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention** (Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3) for the reasons indicated in the Annex.
 - recalls that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1 (e)).
- Consequently the applicant is hereby **invited**, within the time limit indicated above, to **restrict the claims** as suggested under item 4, below, or to pay the amount indicated below:

EUR 1595,00	X	1	=	EUR 1595,00
Fee per additional invention		number of additional inventions		total amount of additional fees

- The applicant is informed that, according to Rule 68.3 (c), **the payment of any additional fee may be made under protest**, that is a reasoned statement to the effect that the international application complies with the requirement of unity of invention or that the amount of the required additional fee is excessive, where applicable, subject to the payment of a protest fee.

Where the applicant pays additional fees under protest, the applicant is hereby invited, within the time limit indicated above, to pay a protest fee (Rule 68.3(e)) in the amount of 1020.- EUR.

Where the applicant has not, within the time limit indicated above, paid the required protest fee, the protest will be considered not to have been made and the International Preliminary Examining Authority will so declare.

- If the applicant opts to restrict the claims**, this Authority suggests the restriction possibilities indicated in the Annex, which in its opinion would be in compliance with the requirement of unity of invention.
- In the absence of any response** from the applicant, this Authority will establish the international preliminary examination report on those parts of the international application indicated in the Annex which, in the opinion of this Authority appear to relate to the main invention.

Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:



European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas
Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl
Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016

Authorized Officer

Savage, J

Tel. +31 70 340-2482



10/594539

IAPO1 Rec'd PCT/PTO 27 SEP 2006

**INVITATION TO RESTRICT
OR TO PAY ADDITIONAL FEES**

International application No. PCT/DK2005/000221

The separate inventions/groups of inventions are:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 1-11,22-29 | Method and device for detecting a property of an object in which the output signal is generated as a ratio of a signal derived from the interferometric reflection and transmission signals |
| 12-21,30-32 | Method and apparatus for controlling the resonant frequency of an optical interferometer |

They are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept (Rule 13.1 PCT) for the following reasons:

- 1 The only concept in common to all the independent claims, namely a method (and apparatus suitable for carrying out said method) of detecting a property of an object using laser interferometry, is well known in the art. See e.g. US 5 137 361.
- 2 The claims can be grouped according to their special technical features:
 - 2.1 Claims 1-11 and 22-29: Method and device for detecting a property of an object in which the output signal is generated as a ratio of a signal derived from the interferometric reflection and transmission signals, thus solving the objective problem of how to increase the signal to noise ratio of the output signal.
 - 2.2 Claims 12-21 and 30-32: Method and apparatus for controlling the resonant frequency of an optical interferometer, thus solving the objective problem of how to optimise the interferometer to the sample being analysed.
- 3 There is no feature in common to the two groups, which could be considered as a special technical feature in the sense of PCT Rule 13.2, second sentence. Thus no technical relationship, within the meaning of PCT Rule 13.2, can be seen between the aforementioned groups of inventions.
 - 3.1 The applicant is asked to state upon which invention or group of inventions further prosecution of the application should be based and to limit the application accordingly. The other inventions or groups of inventions are to be excised from the claims, description and drawings if any.

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE
P.O. Box 5818
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk
THE NETHERLANDS

*Fax to No. +31 70 340 3016
Confirmation copy by mail*

Date 19 July 2006
Your ref.
Our ref. P200301882WO/HSC/SHA

COPY


Dear Sirs,

International Patent Application PCT/DK2005/000221
Applicant: Force Technology, et al
International Filing Date: 31 March 2005

In reply to the PCT/IPEA/405 Form dated 28 June 2006 - Invitation to restrict or to pay additional fees - we hereby inform the International Preliminary Examination Authority that we wish to pay the additional examination fee of EURO 1595.00 as the application has been found to include 2 inventions.

The amount may be charged to our deposit account No. 28030012, according to the enclosed EPO Form 1010.

Yours faithfully
Zacco Denmark A/S


Johnny P. Boesen
Direct Line: 39 48 80 14
E-mail: jpb@zacco.dk

Encl.:
Form 1010
Form 1037